

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-4 and 7-19 are now pending in the application. Claims 2, 5, and 6 are cancelled. Claim 19 is new. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 11, 17, and 18 are objected because of certain informalities. Applicants have amended the claims 11, 17, and 18 to address the objection. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12 and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Pan et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,760,306). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 9, 10, 12, and 14-17 to more clearly point out the claimed subject matter. Applicant has also cancelled claim 2. The amended claim 1 recites “forwarding traffic streams in the service bearer logic network according to labels configured in the multi-level label stack generated by the bearer network resource manager in the bearer control layer” in combination with the other limitations.

Applicant submits that Pan fails to disclose all the limitations recited in the amended claim 1. Thus, the amended claim 1 and its dependent claims 9, 10, 12 and 14-16 define over the art cited by the Examiner. Likewise, the amended claim 17 defines over the art cited by the Examiner.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3-6 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pan (U.S. Pat. No. 6,760,306) in view of Seo (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0071389). Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pan (U.S. Pat. No. 6,760,306) in view of Chen (U.S. Pat. 7092380). Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pan (U.S. Pat. No. 6,760,306) in view of Duguay (U.S. Pat. 6266694). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant has amended claims 3-4, 11, 13 and 18 to more clearly point out the claimed subject matter. Applicant has also cancelled claims 5-6.

Applicant respectfully submits that the arguments made above with respect to Pan apply equally hereto. Applicant further respectfully submits that the additional art cited by the Examiner, in combination with Pan or individually, do not teach or suggest the claimed invention. Thus, Applicant submits that claims 3-4, 11, 13 and 18 define over the art cited by the Examiner.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that claims 7 and 8 are allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant elects to defer rewriting the allowable claims until the Examiner has considered the amendments and claims made herein with respect to the reflected claims.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 9, 2007

By: /Joseph M. Lafata/
Joseph M. Lafata, Reg. No. 37166

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

JML/PFD/jao